

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JIDDA 05229 240948Z

21

ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 L-01 INR-05 PM-01 PRS-01 SP-02

NSC-05 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 OMB-01 MC-01 ACDA-10

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R 240845Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1940

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

S E C R E T JIDDA 5229

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, JO, US, SA

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR PICKERING'S TALK WITH PRIME MINISTER RIFAI

JULY 14: DOLLARS 30 MILLION FY '75 FMS CREDIT

REF: (A) STATE 168611; (B) JIDDA 4663

1. CHARGE DELIVERED FONOFF NOTE JULY 23 TO ACTING FONMIN MOHAMMED MAS'UD IN WHICH EMBASSY DESCRIBED PRO-MISSORY NOTE ISSUE, AND ASKED SAG TO AUTHORIZE ITS AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON OR SOME OTHER SUITABLE OFFICIAL TO ASSIGN THE NOTE ASAP.
2. MAS'UD, WHO HAD SEEN MIN DEF SULTAN JULY 22, SAID SULTAN HAD RECEIVED SOME KIND OF MESSAGE THAT ASKED ABOUT THIS MATTER FROM SAUDI EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, BUT SULTAN AND SAUDI EMBASSY SEEMED CONFUSED ABOUT WHAT WAS REQUIRED. SULTAN HAD ASKED MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS FOR CLARIFICATION; MFA HAD REPLIED IT KNEW NOTHING OF THE MATTER.
3. CHARGE POINTED OUT GOJ HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH KING KHALID AND CP FAHD; HE HOPED MOREOVER THAT INFO IN EMBASSY NOTE COULD BE USED AS SECRET

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BASIS FOR MINISTRY'S ACTION, AND FOLLOW-UP WITH APPROPRIATE SAUDI AUTH-

ORITIES. MAS'UD SAID IT WOULD BE BEST IF MFA WERE TO RECEIVE INFO AND APPROACH FROM JORDANIANS THEMSELVES.

4. COMMENT: WHEN QUESTION OF SAUDIS COSIGNING 30 MILLION DOLLAR PROMISSORY NOTE FIRST RAISED WITH PRINCE SULTAN BY AMBASSADOR AKINS (REF B), SULTAN SAID JORDANIAN CHIEF OF STAFF BIN SHAKER WAS DUE NEXT DAY FOR TALKS AND THAT THIS ISSUE COULD BE CLARIFIED THEN. PERHAPS IT WAS NOT, AND QUITE OBVIOUSLY KING KHALID AND CROWN PRINCE FAHD HAVE NOT BEEN COORDINATING WITH MODA AND THE MFA. ACTION SUGGESTED: THAT GOJ ASK ITS AMBASSADOR TO MAKE APPROPRIATE FOLLOW-UP WITH SAUDIS.
HORAN

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NNN

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